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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Diamondhead, MS:** To keep all personnel and their families safe and to prevent the spreading of the coronavirus, all city employees are on administrative leave until further notice. This is effective today. This includes city administration, finance department, public works, court department, building department, planning and zoning department. All city offices are closed.

This action by the City Manager is following the recommendations of the MS Department of Health and CDC to limit personal interaction by practicing social distancing and self-quarantining.

If you have a police emergency, please dial 911. If you have a non-emergency call for the police, call police dispatch at 228-255-9191.

If you have another city emergency, please dial 228-222-4626, and dial extension #1800. We will be checking messages regularly to respond to urgent needs of our residents. All non-urgent calls from residents will be handled as soon as possible.

You can also call city hall at 228-255-4626 and use the automated attendant to leave a voicemail message for the department you are trying to contact. When employees return, they will address your request.

Court payments can be made online, and for other court department matters, you can call 228-222-4626, ext. 1809, or email [lpater@diamondhead.ms.gov](mailto:lpater@diamondhead.ms.gov). Our court department staff will be checking messages regularly.

There will be no new building or other permits issued this week and building inspections may be limited as well. Public works will not be cutting grass or picking up shrubbery during this week. However, Waste Management has informed us that they will be picking up trash on their regular routes. If you bundle your shrubbery in 4 ft lengths or put it in bags or containers, Waste Management will pick this up for you.

Please be safe during this unusual time in Diamondhead and across our great country.